



1021.41200X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): NAKAGAWA, et al.

Application No.: 10/076,420

Filed: February 19, 2002

For: PERPENDICULAR MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIA AND
MAGNETIC STORAGE APPARATUS USING THE SAME

Group: 1773

Examiner: K. Bernatz

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97 AND § 1.98**

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 24, 2004

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find copies of documents cited in a Notice of Rejection mailed February 24, 2004, in a Japanese Patent application corresponding to the above-identified application. This Notice of Rejection mailed February 24, 2004, is also enclosed. Further enclosed are English-language Abstracts of the documents cited in this Notice of Rejection. Still further enclosed is a Form, substantially equivalent to Form PTO-1449, listing the documents cited in the enclosed Notice of Rejection.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted subsequent to issuance of the Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due mailed February 24, 2004, and prior to payment of the Issue Fee, in connection with the above-identified application. For satisfying requirements of 37 CFR § 1.97(d), Applicants are

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submitting the necessary fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(p), and also make the following Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e):

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

To the extent that the enclosed documents are not in English, it is respectfully submitted that requirements of 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(3) are satisfied by the enclosed English-language Abstracts of the documents cited in the enclosed Notice of Rejection.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 CFR § 1.97 and § 1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with each of the documents listed in the enclosed Form. Accordingly, consideration of the listed documents, prior to issuance of a U.S. patent based upon the above-identified application, is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135

(Case No. 1021.41200X00) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

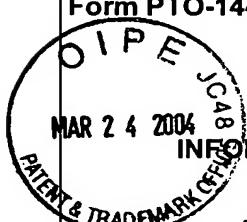
Respectfully submitted,

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Form PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DKT. NO.	APPLICATION NO.
		1021.41200X00	10/076,420
MAR 24 2004 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT	
		Nakagawa, et al.	
		FILING DATE	GROUP
		February 19, 2002	1773

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
AA						
AB						
AC						
AD						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation/ Abstracts	
						Yes	No
AE	09-091660	04/04/1997	Japan			X	
AF	2001-110029	4/20/2001	Japan			X	
AG							
AH							
AI							
AJ							
AK							
AL							

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

AM	
AN	
AO	
AP	
AQ	
AR	
Examiner	Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC